

Chambers of  
**RICHARD T. FIELDS**  
Presiding Judge



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**Superior Court of California**  
County of Riverside

April 26, 2007

Court E-mail Group

Re: Update on Assembly Bill 159

Dear friends and colleagues,

Back in January of this year I wrote to you and encouraged you to contact our area legislators and urge support for Assembly Bill (AB) 159. This important legislation, introduced in January by Assembly Member Dave Jones (D-Sacramento), authorizes 50 new trial court judgeships statewide upon appropriation by the legislature in the 2007-08 fiscal year. Riverside County Superior Court is slated to receive seven of these new judgeships, an important step in providing enhanced access to justice and court services to the citizens of Riverside County.

The Assembly Judiciary Committee considered AB 159 On April 10, 2007. I was honored to testify before the committee on behalf of the Judicial Council and our court in support of the bill. Judge Hillary Chittick of the Fresno County Superior Court and Donna Hershkowitz with the Administrative Office of the Courts joined me in testifying. I am pleased to announce that the measure received bi-partisan support and passed out of committee by a vote of 10-0.

The legislation has now been referred to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations. I encourage you to show your support for this legislation by writing to the committee members. I have provided a template for a letter that can be used to demonstrate your support, as well as a second document with the names and addresses of the Assembly Committee on Appropriations members.

Thanks again for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

*Richard T. Fields*

RICHARD T. FIELDS  
Presiding Judge

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